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**National Weather Service Honors Deanna Brummet for
Outstanding Service to Volunteer Cooperative Weather Observer Program**

Recognizing more than 23 years of dedication, NOAA's National Weather Service has named Deanna Brummet, Cooperative Weather Observer from five miles west of Stapleton, Nebraska, as a 2012 recipient of the agency's John Campanius Holm Award for outstanding service in the Cooperative Weather Observer program. The award is the agency's second-most prestigious, and is presented to deserving cooperative weather observers from around the country.

"Cooperative observers are a critical part of weather data collection and analysis," said Ryan Knutsvig, Meteorologist in Charge of NOAA's National Weather Service office in North Platte. "The science of weather forecasting has grown considerably over the last 40 years, resulting in better forecasts and warnings. Without the accurate weather observations spanning more than a century by volunteer observers, the science of weather forecasting would be deficient. We thank Deanna for her many years of service to our country."

Ryan Knutsvig, Meteorologist in Charge of the North Platte office, will present the award at 700 p.m. during a ceremony held at the Logan County Fair Rodeo. Observing Program Leader Steve Carmel nominated Deanna Brummet for the Holm Award, and will be present at the ceremony as well.

The National Weather Service's Cooperative Weather Observer Program is a unique partnership between the National Weather Service and citizen volunteers in every U.S. state and territory. The cooperative observer program has given scientists and researchers continuous weather data since the program's inception in 1890. Today, more than 11,000 volunteer observers participate in the nationwide program to provide daily reports on temperature, precipitation and other weather factors such as snow depth, river levels and soil temperature.

Deanna Brummet of the Stapleton, Nebraska area, established the Cooperative Weather observing site on July 25, 1989, reporting daily precipitation data, including snowfall and snow depth to the National Weather Service North Platte office. Site reports have provided important data to NOAA forecasters and hydrologists and climate scientists. Over the years, Deanna Brummet has provided nearly 8,426 daily reports to the National Weather Service.

Long and continuous records provide an accurate picture of a locale's normal weather, and give climatologists and others a basis for predicting future trends. These



data are invaluable for scientists studying floods, droughts and heat and cold waves. At the end of each month, observers mail their records to the National Climatic Data Center for publication in "Climatological Data" or "Hourly Precipitation Data."

The first extensive network of cooperative stations was set up in the 1890s as a result of an 1890 act of Congress that established the U.S. Weather Bureau. Many of the stations have even longer histories. John Campanius Holm's weather records, taken without benefit of instruments in 1644 and 1645, are the earliest known recorded observations in the United States.

Many historic figures have maintained weather records, including Benjamin Franklin, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson maintained an almost unbroken record of weather observations between 1776 and 1816, and Washington took weather observations just a few days before he died. The Jefferson and Holm awards are named for these weather observation pioneers.

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On the Web:

NOAA's National Weather Service, North Platte: <http://www.weather.gov/lbf>